GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4450
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
NATIONAL WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of National Watershed Development Project for rainfed areas in the country;

(b) the target of this project, achievements made, the expenditure involved, the amount earmarked and spent, so far, State-wise during Tenth Plan; and

(c) the areas identified for the purpose of implementation of this project and the status of implementation of this project during 2004-05 and the target for 2005-06 in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, vFOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) The National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which was launched in the 8th Five Year Plan and is continued during the 10th Five Year Plan. It is being implemented in 28 States and two Union Territories of the country.The primary objective of NWDPRA is to improve production and productivity of rainfed areas and restore the ecological balance in the project regions. The main elements of the guiding principles of the scheme are as follow: Conservation of natural resources, integrated development of natural as well as social resources, in-situ moisture conservation, sustainable fanning system, adoption of ridge to valley approach, due emphasis on production enhancement activities for land owners and livelihood support for landless families, democratic decentralization in decision making, transparency in transactions, mobilization of community at the village level, direct funding to the community, emphasis on `Government` participation in `Community`s` plans, contributory approach to empower the community, building upon indigenous innovations, initiatives and ideas, equity for resource-poor families and empowerment of women.

(b)The physical and financial achievements under NWDPRA Scheme during 10th Plan are furnished in the enclosed Statement.

(c) In Andhra Pradesh, the NWDPRA Scheme is under implementation in 143 watersheds located in 19 districts during 2004-05. A sum of Rs. 718,37 lakhs has been spent to develop an area of 15964. ha. During 2004-05 and it is proposed to implement the programme during 2005-06 with an outlay of Rs.686.88 lakhs to treat an area of 15264 ha. in these 19 districts.